

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A hermetic container ~~according to claim 1,~~

comprising:

a first substrate;

a second substrate disposed confronting with said first substrate;

an outer frame disposed between said first and second substrates and surrounding a space between said first and second substrates;

a sealing member for sealing a connection area between said outer frame and at least one of said first and second substrates, a space defined by said first and second substrates and said outer frame being maintained hermetic; and

a reinforcing member disposed outside the space maintained hermetic and between said first and second substrates, said reinforcing member maintaining a fixed state of a relative position of said first and second substrates,

wherein:

said reinforcing member does not contact an area at which said outer frame and said sealing member contact mutually, and

said reinforcing member consists of an adhesive for adhering said first and second substrates,

wherein said reinforcing member, said outer frame and said sealing member have different thermal expansion coefficients.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A hermetic container ~~according to claim 3,~~  
comprising:

a first substrate;

a second substrate disposed confronting with said first substrate;

an outer frame disposed between said first and second substrates and  
surrounding a space between said first and second substrates;

a sealing member for sealing a connection area between said outer  
frame and at least one of said first and second substrates, a space defined by said first and  
second substrates and said outer frame being maintained hermetic; and

a reinforcing member disposed outside the space maintained  
hermetic, and between said first and second substrates, said reinforcing member  
maintaining a fixed state of a relative position of said first and second substrates,

wherein:

said reinforcing member does not contact an area at which at least  
one of said first and second substrates contacts said sealing member, and

said reinforcing member consists of an adhesive for adhering said  
first and second substrates,

wherein said reinforcing member, at least one of said first and  
second substrates and said sealing member have different thermal expansion coefficients.

5. (Currently Amended) A hermetic container according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein said sealing member is made of low melting point metal.

6. (Currently Amended) A hermetic container according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein said sealing member is made of frit.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)